



# *COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*

*Marine Resources Commission  
2600 Washington Avenue  
Third Floor  
Newport News, Virginia 23607*

Molly Joseph Ward  
Secretary of Natural Resources

John M.R. Bull  
Commissioner

April 4, 2014

**TO: ATLANTIC MENHADEN BUYERS AND HARVESTERS**  
**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**RE: CLOSURE OF THE DIRECTED MENHADEN GILL NET FISHERY**

Effective 6:00 P.M., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, Monday, April 7, 2014, the commercial menhaden gill net fishery will be closed. Based on landing reports from mandatory harvest reporting and Virginia seafood buyers, it is projected that Virginia will have caught 100% of the 1,521,108 pounds of the menhaden gill net quota, by Monday, April 7, 2014.

As provided in Chapter 4 VAC20-1270-10 et seq. "Pertaining to Atlantic Menhaden", when a non-purse seine menhaden bait sector gear quota is announced, by the Commissioner, as having been attained, individuals using that specific gear type may land no more than 6,000 pounds of menhaden per day, as bycatch. All bycatch landings of menhaden must be reported according to the schedule and reporting requirements established by Chapter 4 VAC 20-610-10 et seq., "Pertaining to Commercial Fishing and Mandatory Harvest Reporting".

Therefore, after 6:00 P.M., EDST, April 7, 2014 it shall be unlawful for any person to harvest or land more than 6,000 pounds of menhaden per day, for commercial purposes, by use of gill net in Virginia, for the remainder of 2014.

If you have questions or comments contact Joe Cimino at (757) 247-2237 or Joe Grist at (757) 247-2236.

JC(PS):jc

*An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat*

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